

Remarks

Claims 21–25 and 31–65 are pending in this application. Claims 1–20 and 26–30 have been canceled. Claim 21 has been amended. New claims 31–65 have been added to more specifically claim the invention. The new and amended claims are fully supported by the specification. No new matter has been added.

Section 102 and 103 Rejections

Claims 21–24 were rejected under section 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent 4,763,536 (Beshoory), and claim 25 was rejected under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beshoory in view of admitted prior art. Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Claim 21 recites “wherein *input fluid enters the interior chamber only through at least one of the first or third opening.*” Beshoory does not show or suggest at least this feature of the invention. In contrast to the invention, Beshoory has at least three openings (i.e., gas inlet 43, apertures 33, or gas outlet 44) through which a fluid (such as a gas) may be input to (or output from) tube 40. Beshoory, column 2, lines 10, 43–44, and 56–60. The present invention provides features and benefits not found in the prior art.

For at least this reason, claim 21 should be allowable. Claims 22–25 and 31 are dependent on claim 21 and should be allowable for at least similar reasons.

New Claims

The new claims recite features also not found in the prior art and should therefore be allowable.

Claim 32 recites “*at least a portion of the conduit extends along a wall of the housing and comprises a surface outside the housing*” (emphasis added). Beshoory does not show or suggest at least this feature. Beshoory does not show or suggest at least this feature, and therefore claim 32 should be allowable. Claims 33–36 are dependent on claim 32 and should be allowable for at least similar reasons.

Claim 37 recites “*a cross section of at least a portion of the conduit comprises a first wall outside the interior chamber and a second wall forming a surface of the interior chamber, and the second wall and the housing meet at two points of the cross section*” (emphasis added).

Beshoory does not show or suggest at least this feature, and therefore claim 32 should be allowable. Claims 38–41 are dependent on claim 37 and should be allowable for at least similar reasons.

Claim 42 recites “*a cross section of at least a portion of the conduit forms an annular ring around at least a portion of the interior chamber of the housing*” (emphasis added). Beshoory does not show or suggest at least this feature, and therefore claim 42 should be allowable. Claims 43–49 are dependent on claim 42 and should be allowable for at least similar reasons.

Claim 50 recites “*a cross section of the housing and conduit form concentric shapes*” (emphasis added). Beshoory does not show or suggest at least this feature, and therefore claim 50 should be allowable. Claims 51–58 are dependent on claim 50 and should be allowable for at least similar reasons.

Claim 59 recites “*the second opening is coupled to the second end of the housing*” (emphasis added). Beshoory does not show or suggest at least this feature, and therefore claim 59 should be allowable. Claims 60–62 are dependent on claim 59 and should be allowable for at least similar reasons.

Claim 63 recites “*wherein a fluid enters the chamber only through at least one of the first or third opening*” (emphasis added). Beshoory does not show or suggest at least this feature, and therefore claim 63 should be allowable. Claims 64–65 are dependent on claim 63 and should be allowable for at least similar reasons.

Conclusion

For the above reasons, applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please contact the signee.

Respectfully submitted,

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